and consequently the original estimated costs, change in the scope of projects during implementation, difficulties in land acquisition, and non-availability of building materials at times.

RBI Guidelines for Lockers in Banks

2064. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has formulated any guidelines for the nationalised banks in connection with the locker facilities extended to its customers; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what are the rates of lockers, sizewise of all the nationalised banks in the Capital;

(c) whether it is a fact that all the nationalised banks only the rates of lockers of the Canara Bank are high and whether in addition to the existing high rates that Bank is charging 10 per cent increase every year from its customers in certain branches in the Capital; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India hove issued instructions to all the public sector banks regarding allotment of lockers. These instructions provide that atleast 80 percent of the lockers should e allotted by banks on first-cum-first-served basis and the remaining 20 per cent on business considerations. The banks should not insist on fixed deposits as a prerequisite for allotment of lockers. There will, however, be no objection to banks seeking a deposit (but not as a condition for allotment) from the applicant who has been allotted a locker to cover the annual rent of the locker from the interest on the deposit. In the alternative, advance payment of locker rent for a period of 3 years may be collected from the locker holder.

(b) Rates of lockers charged by the nationalised banks in the capital city of Delhi vary from bank to bank depending upon the size of the locker, capital cost incurred on installation, expenditure on maintenance, space occupied, etc. As per the information readily available from some of the banks, the rate varies from Rs. 40/- for a small size locker to Rs. 675/- for a large size locker per annum.

(c) and (d) The rates for lockers charged by Canara Bank in Delhi are indicated below:—

Size of the Lockers	Commercial Area	Residential Area
6½"×4½"	Rs. 125/- p.a.	Rs. 100/- p.a.
13"×4½"	Rs. 250/- p.a.	Rs. 200/- p.a.
13"×10½"	Rs. 500/- p.a.	Rs. 400/- p.a.

According to Canara Bank even with the above rates, it is not recovering the actual cost incurred by it in providing the locker facility. The bank is, therefore, enhancing the rates by 10 per cent every year in order to recover the actual expenses.

दिल्ली पुलिस की अपराध शाखा में दर्ज खाना पकाने की गैस के झूठे कनैक्शनों के मामले

2065. **श्री सुनील कुमार पट्टनायक :** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) खाना पकाने की गैस के